



**Services
for
children**

**with special
health care
needs**



a division of the Alabama Department of REHABILITATION SERVICES



Eligibility

Any child or adolescent younger than 21 who is a resident of Alabama and has a special health care need is eligible for Children's Rehabilitation Service. Individuals of all ages with hemophilia are eligible.

Family Participation

Families participate in the cost of services for their child based on a sliding fee schedule and by using any Medicaid or insurance coverage.

Creating Partnerships ~ Building Futures

Established in 1935, Children's Rehabilitation Service (CRS) is a division of the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services. CRS is a statewide organization of skilled, well-trained professionals committed to providing quality, individualized services to children and youth with special health care needs in homes, schools, and other community settings.

CRS services are available to children and youth in every county in Alabama through a network of 15 community-based offices. The CRS network provides specialty clinic and other services by doctors, nurses, social workers, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, occupational therapists, and registered dietitians. These and other dedicated professionals work together as partners with CRS families to build brighter futures for children and youth with disabilities.

CRS Programs and Services

Clinical Medical Program and Associated Clinical Medical Program

Medical and related services for individuals with:

- orthopedic conditions
- cerebral palsy
- scoliosis
- vision impairment
- limb deficiency
- hearing loss
- juvenile rheumatoid arthritis
- cystic fibrosis
- seizure conditions
- cleft lip and palate
- craniofacial conditions
- hemophilia
- spina bifida
- heart conditions
- traumatic brain injury
- urology conditions



Clinical Evaluation Program

Clinical evaluations available:

- Augmentative Communication/Technology (ACT)
- Nutrition and Feeding
- Hearing Aid Evaluation and Orientation
- Teen Transition

Other Programs

- Patient/family Education
- Information and Referral
- Care Coordination
- Parent Connection
- Youth Connection

Services for Children Enrolled in Clinical Programs

- medications
- appliances
- school assistance
- laboratory services
- hospitalization
- surgery
- transportation reimbursement
- assistive technology
- physician services
- audiological services
- physical therapy
- speech/language therapy
- occupational therapy
- social work services
- nursing services
- nutrition counseling
- low-vision services
- special dental and orthodontic services

CRS participates in **Alabama's EARLY INTERVENTION System** for infants and toddlers and their families. Referrals can be made by calling any local CRS office or the toll-free Early Intervention Child Find hotline at 1-800-543-3098.



**CRS
quality
care**

Children's Rehabilitation Service is committed to providing quality services within a system of care that is family-centered, community-based, culturally competent and coordinated with other health and educational resources. This commitment is enormous – in the number of clients served, disabilities and disorders treated, geographic locations and in the scope of staff expertise necessary for success.

More than 22,000 families are served each year from every area of the state and from every economic, social and educational background.

**CRS
offices**

ANDALUSIA

580 West Bypass, 36420
334-222-5558 • 1-800-723-8064
Fax: 334-427-1216

ANNISTON

1010 Christine Avenue,
Suite 250, 36207-5710
256-235-3050 • 1-800-289-9533
Fax: 256-238-9875

BIRMINGHAM

P.O. Drawer 2328, 35201-2328
Community Office (Homewood)
205-290-4550 • 1-888-430-7423
Fax: 205-2904560
Medical Center Office
205-939-5900 • 1-800-285-9318
Fax: 205-939-5920

DOTHAN

795 Ross Clark Circle, NE,
P.O. Drawer 1627, 36303
334-792-0022 • 1-800-677-9123
Fax: 334-702-8442

GADSDEN

1100 George Wallace Drive, 35903-6501
256-547-8653 • 1-800-289-1353
Fax: 256-547-3513

HUNTSVILLE

407 Governors Drive, SW,
Suite B, 35801-5125
256-518-8640 • 1-800-283-9352
Fax: 256-518-9702



Teamwork, cooperation and understanding are at the very heart of Children's Rehabilitation Service. Families are at the center of a team approach, and friends, neighbors, educators and others in the community are considered partners in the rehabilitation process. Often, local providers also join the team in an effort to provide a comprehensive system of services and supports that allows children and youth with special health care needs to live at home, go to school, play and build relationships in their own communities.

All families are encouraged to identify a primary care physician who can manage all aspects of their child's medical care. This "medical home" is crucial to comprehensive, coordinated services throughout childhood and adolescence.

In addition to requiring health and health-related services, children and youth with disabilities may have other needs. CRS assists families with locating early intervention services, special education and related services, vocational education, mental health services and social services for their children. Families of children and youth with disabilities may also need assistance with family support, transportation, respite care and employment.

The ultimate goal of this teamwork is to transition youth with special health care needs to all aspects of adult life, including adult health care, work and independence.


CRS teamwork

CRS supporting schools



CRS staff members work closely with local school systems to enable children and youth with special health care needs to participate fully in school. Through services such as counseling, specialized therapy, and assistive technology for children and families, as well as disability training for teachers and other school staff, CRS offers the support vital to classroom success.

CRS consumer input



CRS' commitment to family-centered care is evident in its Parent Connection Program. This program includes paid parent consultants, the *CRS Parent Connection* newsletter and the Parent to Parent Network.

CRS also invites input and feedback from various groups such as local parent advisory committees, the State Parent Advisory Committee, the State Medical Advisory Committee and the State Hemophilia Advisory Committee.

The Youth Connection Program facilitates youth connections and youth involvement in policy development and decision-making through a youth consultant and Youth Advisory Committee.



Alabama Department of
REHABILITATION SERVICES

Children's Rehabilitation Service

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